

**ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES  
JULY 23, 2010**

**STATE PROJECT NO. 700-99-0541  
RETAINER CONTRACT FOR STAGE 0 STUDIES  
STATEWIDE**

Under Authority granted by Title 48 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) hereby issues a Request for Qualification Statements (RFQ) on Standard Form 24-102 (SF 24-102), "Professional Engineering and Related Services", revised January 2003, from Consulting Firms (Consultant) to provide engineering and related services. **All requirements of Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying (LAPELS) Board must be met at the time of submittal.** One Prime-Consultant/Sub-Consultant(s) (Consultant/Team) will be selected for this Contract.

**Project Manager** – Ms. Connie Porter Betts

All inquiries concerning this advertisement should be sent in writing to Debbie.Guest@LA.gov.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The selected Consultant will perform engineering and related services for statewide projects covered by a Retainer Contract under separate Task Orders. The Consulting Firm will be responsible for assisting the Department of Transportation and Development's (DOTD's) Planning Staff in performing Stage 0 feasibility and scoping studies for projects under consideration by DOTD. In some cases, the Consulting Firm may be required to perform an environmental inventory as part of Stage 0. The Consultant will be required to execute a Task Order which will specify the scope of services, contract time, and compensation. Each Task Order will become a part of the Retainer Contract.

**SCOPE OF SERVICES**

The services to be rendered for this Retainer Contract shall consist of the following Stage(s) and Part(s):

Stage 0: Feasibility Studies

Part I: Feasibility Study

Part II: Environmental Inventory

The Consultant should have a comprehensive professional engineering knowledge of the transportation system across all modes, as well as an in-depth knowledge of DOTD's planning, programming, environmental, federal funding mechanisms, design standards

and knowledge of project management techniques. Tasks to be performed by the Consultant on assigned projects include, but are not limited to, the following:

Scoping of Projects under consideration by DOTD

1. Conduct Stage 0 feasibility studies and prepare studies/checklists as requested by DOTD's Scoping Unit. The Stage 0 studies/checklists must be prepared as outlined in DOTD's Stage 0 manual, Stage 0: Manual of Standard Practices. The Stage 0 manual can be found on DOTD's website ([www.dotd.la.gov/doclist.asp?ID=63](http://www.dotd.la.gov/doclist.asp?ID=63)).
2. Discuss and explain the purpose and need for the project in detail in the feasibility study and/or checklist.
3. Obtain, organize and review the engineering data required to prepare the studies/checklists. It may include, but is not limited to the following items:
  - a. Existing traffic data
  - b. Accident data
  - c. Existing highway plans (as-builts)
  - d. Utility information
  - e. Previous studies and reports
  - f. Unit cost data
  - g. Map to identify project site
  - h. Aerial photography
4. Provide geometric layouts of reasonable alternatives using aerial photography and DOTD's design standards.
5. Establish approximate right-of-way limits and area based on a standard template. Depict both the apparent right-of-way and the required right-of-way on the geometric layouts.
6. Develop preliminary cost estimates for each alternative based on unit cost data. The estimates will include the costs associated with engineering, environmental, construction, right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation and contingencies.
7. Complete DOTD's Environmental Checklist and include it in the feasibility report. Analysis of each alternative, including the no build, will be made to the extent practicable. Items to be considered include, but are not limited to social, economic, historic, cultural, recreational, archeological, noise, air, wetlands, flood plains, endangered or threatened species and/or their habitat and farmland. Identify and define the apparent environmentally sensitive areas, hazardous material sites and natural or manmade constraints to project development within the project's limits, using field reconnaissance and aerial photography. This task includes use of publicly available data sets and field review to locate community

resources, utilities, etc. In some cases, a complete environmental inventory will be necessary.

8. Review the alignment of each alternative configuration with the department to discuss the workability and development.

## **REFERENCES**

All services and documents will meet the standard requirements as to format and content of the DOTD; and will be prepared in accordance with the latest applicable editions, supplements and revisions of the following:

1. AASHTO Standard, ASTM Standards or DOTD Test Procedures
2. DOTD Location and Survey Manual
3. DOTD Roadway Design Procedures and Details
4. DOTD Hydraulics Manual
5. DOTD Standard Specification for Roads and Bridges
6. Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices
7. DOTD Traffic Signal Design Manual
8. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
9. National Electric Safety Code
10. National Electric Code (NFPA 70)
11. DOTD Environmental Impact Procedures (Vols. I-III)
12. Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets
13. Construction Contract Administration Manual
14. Materials Sampling Manual
15. DOTD Bridge Design Manual
16. Consultant Contract Services Manual
17. Geotechnical Engineering Services Document
18. Bridge Inspectors Reference Manual
19. DOTD Stage 0 Manual of Standard Practice
20. DOTD Stage 1 Manual of Standard Practice

## **COMPENSATION**

Compensation to the Consultant for services rendered in connection with each TO shall be determined on the basis of a negotiated lump sum amount prior to each TO being issued.

The amount payable under this Retainer Contract for services to be performed under the various TO's shall not exceed a maximum of **\$1,500,000**. Each TO shall be payable under the respective TO project number which shall be obtained by the Project Manager.

## **CONTRACT TIME AND NOTICE TO PROCEED**

This Retainer Contract shall be in effect for the duration of **three years**. The services to be performed for each Task Order (TO) will be determined prior to the execution of the TO. The Consultant will proceed with the services required in the TO upon issuance of the Notice to Proceed from the DOTD. The contract time for each TO, will be specified in the executed TO. Any TO in effect, prior to the expiration date of the Retainer Contract shall be completed.

## **ELECTRONIC DELIVERABLES**

The Consultant hereby agrees to produce electronic deliverables as instructed by the Project Manager. Prior to proceeding with the Stage 0 Feasibility Studies, the Consultant shall contact the Project Manager for any special instructions regarding updates to standards or project-specific requirements if this information has not already been provided.

## **QUALITY CONTROL/QUALITY ASSURANCE**

The DOTD requires the Consultant to develop a Quality Control/Quality Assurance program; in order to provide a mechanism by which all contracted services can be subject to a systematic and consistent review. Consultants must ensure quality and adhere to established design policies, procedures, standards, and guidelines in the preparation and review of all design products. The DOTD shall provide limited input and technical assistance to the Consultant.

## **MINIMUM PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements must be met at the time of submittal:

1. At least one Principal of the Prime-Consultant must be a Professional Engineer registered in the State of Louisiana.
2. At least one Principal or a responsible member of the Prime-Consultant must be a Professional Civil Engineer registered in the State of Louisiana.
3. The Prime-Consultant must also employ on a full time basis, a minimum of two Registered Professional Civil Engineers, one with at least five years experience in roadway design and one with at least five years experience in bridge design and a corresponding staff.
4. The Prime-Consultant must also employ on a full-time basis or through the use of a Sub-Consultant:
  - a. One Environmental Professional with a minimum of three years experience.
  - a.b. **One Professional Civil Engineer registered in the State of Louisiana, with a minimum of five years experience in traffic analysis.**

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

The general criteria to be used by DOTD (when applicable) in evaluating responses for the selection of a Consultant to perform these services are:

1. Consultant's firm experience on similar projects, weighting factor of 3;
2. Consultant's personnel experience on similar projects, weighting factor of 4;
3. Consultant's firm size as related to the estimated project cost, weighting factor of 3;
4. Consultant's past performance on similar DOTD projects, weighting factor of 6;\*\*
5. Consultant's current work load, weighting factor of 5;
6. Location where the work will be performed, weighting factor of 4. \*

\*All respondents will receive a 4 for this category.

\*\*The Planning and Feasibility Studies (PL) performance rating will be used for this project.

Complexity level (moderate)

Consultants will be evaluated as indicated in Items 1- 6. The evaluation will be by means of a point-based rating system. Each of the above criteria will receive a rating on a scale of 0-4. Then the rating will be multiplied by the corresponding weighting factor. The firm's ratings in each category will then be added to arrive at the Consultant's final rating.

If Sub-Consultants are used, each member of the Consultant/Team will be evaluated on their part of the contract, proportional to the amount of their work. The individual team member ratings will then be added to arrive at the Consultant/Team rating.

### **Communication Protocol**

DOTD's Project Evaluation Team will be responsible for performing the above described evaluation, and will present a short-list of the three (if three are qualified) highest rated Consultants to the Secretary of the DOTD. The Secretary will make the final selection. **Below are the proposed Team members. DOTD may substitute for any reason provided the members meet the requirements of R.S. 48:291.**

1. Debbie Guest – Ex officio
2. Connie Porter – Project Manager
3. Paul Vaught
4. Shakira Story
5. Jason Chapman
6. Chad Winchester

### Rules of Contact (Title 48 Engineering and Related Services)

These rules are designed to promote a fair, unbiased, legally defensible selection process. The LA DOTD is the single source of information regarding the Contract selection. The following rules of contact will apply during the Contract selection process and will commence on the date of advertisement and cease at the contract execution by the selected firm. Contact includes face-to-face, telephone, facsimile, Electronic-mail (E-mail), or formal written communications. Any contact determined to be improper, at the sole discretion of the LA DOTD, may result in the rejection of the submittal (SF 24-102):

- A. The Consultant shall correspond with the LA DOTD regarding this advertisement only through the LA DOTD Consultant Contracts Services Administrator;
- B. The Consultant, nor any other party on behalf of the Consultant, shall not contact any LA DOTD employees, including but not limited to, department heads; members of the evaluation teams; and any official who may participate in the decision to award the contract resulting from this advertisement except through the process identified above. Contact between Consultant organizations and LA DOTD employees is allowed during LA DOTD sponsored one-on-one meetings;
- C. Any communication determined to be improper, at the sole discretion of the LA DOTD, may result in the rejection of submittal, at the sole discretion of the LA DOTD;
- D. Any official information regarding the project will be disseminated from the LA DOTD'S designated representative on the LA DOTD website. Any official correspondence will be in writing;
- E. The LA DOTD will not be responsible for any verbal exchange or any other information or exchange that occurs outside the official process specified herein.

**By submission of a response to this RFQ, the Consultant agrees to the communication protocol herein.**

### **CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS**

The selected Consultant will be required to execute the contract within 10 days after receipt of the contract.

**INSURANCE** - During the term of this contract, the Consultant will carry professional liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000. This insurance will be written on a "claims-made" basis. Prior to executing the contract, the Consultant will provide a Certificate of Insurance to DOTD showing evidence of such professional liability insurance.

**AUDIT** - The selected Consultant will allow the DOTD Audit Section to perform an annual overhead audit of their books, or provide an *independent* Certified Public

Accountant (CPA) audited overhead rate. This rate must be developed using Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and guidelines provided by the DOTD Audit Section. In addition, the Consultant will submit semi-annual labor rate information, when requested by DOTD.

The selected Consultant will maintain, an approved Project Cost System and segregate direct from indirect cost in their General Ledger. Pre-award and post audits, as well as interim audits, may be required. For audit purposes, the selected Consultant will maintain accounting records for a minimum of five years after final contract payment.

Any Consultant currently under contract with the DOTD and who has not met all the audit requirements documented in the manual and/or notices posted on the DOTD Consultant Contract Services Website ([www.dotd.louisiana.gov](http://www.dotd.louisiana.gov)), will not be considered for this project.

### **SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

One original (**stamped original**) and **five** copies of the SF 24-102 must be submitted to DOTD. All submittals must be in accordance with the requirements of this advertisement and the Consultant Contract Services Manual. Any Consultant/Team failing to submit any of the information required on the SF 24-102, or providing inaccurate information on the SF 24-102, will be considered non-responsive.

Any Sub-Consultants to be used, including Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE), in performance of this Contract, must also submit a SF 24-102, which is completely filled out and contains all information pertinent to the work to be performed.

The Sub-Consultant's SF 24-102 must be firmly bound to the Consultant's SF 24-102. In Section 9, the Consultant's SF 24-102 must describe the **work elements** to be performed by the Sub-Consultant(s), and state the approximate **percentage** of each work element to be subcontracted to each Sub-Consultant.

Name(s) of the Consultant/Team listed on the SF 24-102, must precisely match the name(s) filed with the Louisiana Secretary of State, Corporation Division, and the Louisiana State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

The SF 24-102 will be identified with State Project No. **700-99-0541**, and will be submitted **prior to 3:00 p.m. CST on Monday, August 9, 2010**, by hand delivery or mail, addressed to:

Department of Transportation and Development  
Attn.: Ms. Debra L. Guest, P.E.  
Contracts Administrator  
1201 Capitol Access Road, **Room 405-T**  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802-4438 or  
Telephone: (225) 379-1733

## **REVISIONS TO THE RFQ**

DOTD reserves the right to revise any part of the RFQ by issuing an addendum to the RFQ at any time. Issuance of this RFQ in no way constitutes a commitment by DOTD to award a contract. DOTD reserves the right to accept or reject, in whole or part, all Qualification Statements submitted and/or cancel this announcement if it is determined to be in DOTD's best interest. All materials submitted in response to this announcement become the property of DOTD and selection or rejection of a submittal does not affect this right. DOTD also reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to waive administrative informalities contained in the RFQ.